

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 FLOREN 00047 011526Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /069 W  
-----011648Z 007557 /43

R 011415Z FEB 77  
FM AMCONSUL FLORENCE  
TO AMEMBASSY ROME  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1593  
AMCONSUL GENOA  
AMCONSUL MILAN  
AMCONSUL NAPLES  
AMCONSUL PALERMO  
AMCONSUL TRIESTE  
AMCONSUL TURIN

UNCLAS FLORENCE 0047

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT, IT  
SUBJECT: MINISTER Malfatti Address on Eurocommunism

1. EDUCATION MINISTER FRANCO MARIA Malfatti REASSERTED THE DC'S POLICY ON CONFRONTATION WITH THE PCI IN A JANUARY 29 FLORENCE SPEECH ENTITLED EUROCOMMUNISM. IN HIS PRESENTATION, Malfatti SOUGHT TO DULL LUSTER OF PCI'S NEW LOOK BY ANALYZING CONTRADICTIONS IN PARTY'S RECENT POSITIONS AND POINTING OUT THE HISTORIC LOGIC GROWING FROM PARTY'S PAST.
2. Malfatti ADDRESSED AN OVERFLOW CROWD OF MORE THAN 300 INCLUDING MOST OF LOCAL POLITICAL AND INTELLECTUAL ELITE OF ALL MAJOR PARTIES AT FLORENCE'S STROZZI PALACE. ADDRESS WAS SPONSORED BY POLITICAL JOURNAL 'PROSPETTIVE NEL MONDO', DC ORIENTED, SCHOLARLY POLITICAL JOURNAL (PRINTED IN FLORENCE WITH EDITORIAL OFFICES IN ROME) AND CATEGORIZED BY SPONSORS AS IN TRADITION OF HISTORIC DC-PCI DEBATE. PCI MAYOR GABBUZZANI LENT HIS PRESENCE TO THE OCCASION AND WAS INDUCED TO SIT ON

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 FLOREN 00047 011526Z

PLATFORM TO IMMEDIATE LEFT OF Malfatti.

3. THRUST OF MINISTER'S HARD-HITTING REMARKS AIMED AT DEMONSTRATING:

(A) EUROCOMMUNISM IS FUNDAMENTALLY NOTHING MORE THAN TRADITIONAL COMMUNISM, AND HENCE NOTHING NEW TO ITALIAN SCENE#

(B) SUCH DIVERSITY EXISTS AMONG WESTERN EUROPEAN PARTIES ON FUNDAMENTAL ISSUES SUCH AS EUROPEAN UNITY AND THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE, THAT IT MAKES NO SENSE TO PLACE ITALIAN COMMUNISTS AT THE SIDE OF THEIR FRENCH, PORTUGUESE, ENGLISH AND SPANISH COMRADES#

(C) PCI PUBLIC PRONOUNCEMENTS ARE SO FULL OF CONTRADICTIONS ON ISSUES VITAL TO CONDUCT OF DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY THAT THE PARTY IS EITHER INCONSISTENT WITH ITS PAST (BECOMING NON-MARXIST-LENINIST), OR MORE LIKELY LIKELY, FEIGNING A NEW POSTURE WHERE NONE EXISTS.

4. SPECIFICALLY, MALFATTI ANALYZED FOLLOWING CONTRADICTIONS IN PARTY BEHAVIOR:

(A) PLURALISM AND COMMUNIST REVOLUTION ARE FUNDAMENTALLY INCOMPATIBLE AND THEREFORE THE PCI CANNOT BE A BELIEVER IN PLURALISM AND STILL REMAIN, AS IT PROFESSES, A REVOLUTIONARY PARTY#

(B) THE PARTY THAT SEES ITSELF AS 'THE GUIDING PARTY' LOGICALLY BELIEVES ONLY IN ITS OWN HEGEMONY AND THE CONQUEST OF POWER FOR ITSELF#

(C) REVOLUTION AND REFORMISM ARE MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE STRATEGIES. HISTORICALLY, THE PCI LIKE ALL COMMUNIST PARTIES BELIEVES IN THE INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF A MONOPOLY OF ITS OWN IDEAS AND MORALITY#

(D) ALTERNATION IN POWER IS INCOMPATIBLE WITH THE CONCEPT OF UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 FLOREN 00047 011526Z

MONOPOLY OF STATE POWER INSISTED UPON BY COMMUNISTS. MALFATTI ASKED HOW A PARTY WHICH DENIES PLURALISM WITHIN ITS OWN RANKS, BY VIRTUE OF DEMOCRATIC CENTRALISM, CAN BE TRUSTED TO TOLERATE IT IN THE CONTEXT OF THE LARGER SOCIETY.

5. MALFATTI CONCLUDED BY SUGGESTING THAT PCI POLITICAL AND IDEOLOGICAL POSITIONS WERE AT VARIANCE AND THAT ITS PAST HISTORY SHOULD DENY THE PCI ANY CREDIBILITY FOR ITS PRESENT TACTICAL POSITION. THE MINISTER STRONGLY URGED VIGILANCE WITH REGARD TO THE PCI AND RECONFIRMED HIS PARTY'S INTENTION TO PURSUE THE POLICY OF 'CONFRONTO' IN ITS RELATIONS WITH THE COMMUNISTS.

6. COMMENT: MALFATTI SPEECH INTERPRETED HERE AS ATTEMPT TO DEFINE DC POSITION AT HIGH INTELLECTUAL, NON-POLEMICAL LEVEL, BUT AT SAME TIME MAKE CRYSTAL CLEAR HIS PARTY'S DIFFERENCES WITH THE ITALIAN COMMUNIST PARTY OVER BASIC ISSUES IN ORDER TO AVOID IMPRESSION OF DRIFTING TOGETHER DURING CURRENT POLITICAL DIFFICULTIES. GORDON

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PARTY LINE, SPEECHES, PARTY LEADERS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 01-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977FLOREN00047  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770035-0933  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** FLORENCE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770287/aaaacyni.tel  
**Line Count:** 115  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 526c08ce-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 20-Sep-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3443907  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MINISTER Malfatti Address on Eurocommunism  
**TAGS:** PINT, IT, DC, PCI, (Malfatti, Franco Maria)  
**To:** ROME  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/526c08ce-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009